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ABSTRACT

This study of Papua New Guinea gives a historical overview of the area and its colonization. The first public library was founded in the capital of Port Moresby in 1936. Granted independence in 1976, Papua New Guinea is now a parliamentary democracy. This document traces the location of the various historical archival material dealing with the history of the country and includes biographical information on each of the historical figures mentioned. In addition, there is a description of the history and development of the National Library Service and an explanation of the techniques for sarching for and locating the geographically dispersed materials listed in a 118-item bibliography. (NL)

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ARCHIVES, MANUSCRIPTS AND RECORDS IN AND ABOUT PAPUA NEW GUINEA: ONE HUNDRED YEARS OF CREATION, DISPERSION AND LIMITED RETURN

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May, 1987

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GENERAL INFORMATION

Papua New Guinea is an independent state and a member of the Commonwealth. It consists of the eastern half of the island of New Guinea and many offshore islands, including New Britain, New Ireland and Bouganville. New Guinea, with an area of approximately 868,000 sq. km., is the second largest island in the world, the largest being Greenland. The nation extends from the equator to 12 degrees South latitude and from 141 to 160 degrees East longitude. The total area of Papua New Guinea is 46,169,033 hectares. The estimated population in July 1983 was 3,192,000, including 27,000 Europeans and 6,000 Asians. Port Moresby, population 70,000, on the south coast, is the capital. The indigenous people of Papua New Guinea are related to the other Melanesians who occupy the greater part of the Western Pacific. Their great cultural diversity is reflected in their languages; 700 to 800 have been reported. Only an educated urban minority speaks English as a second language. Police Motu is still used in Papua, and Pidgin English is a necessary means of communication in many areas. Most people still live in villages, communities of 50 to 300 people, and follow a modified traditional life style, based on a subsistence economy. However, many young men have migrated to the cities of Port Moresby, Lae, and Rabaul. (1)

The indigenous people came to New Guinea by sea from South east Asia beginning at least 30,000 years ago when Australia, New Guinea and Tasmania formed one continent. Other Melanesians went further east into the South Pacific. Europeans first reached New Guinea in the sixteenth century, and by the middle of the nineteenth century the general outline of the island was known, but little contact was made with the coastal peoples. There were quite a number of navigators of different nations who visited briefly and made observations, which may be found in published works or in their home archives. The first European to live for some months on the mainland of eastern New Guinea was a Russian scientist named Mikhluho-McKay, in 1871. The London Missionary Society established a mission at Port Moresby in 1872, and the Methodists did the same in Rabael in 1875. They were followed by copra traders, prospectors, and labour "recruiters" for the sugar plantations of Fiji and Queensland. New Guinea was divided into three sections in the next decade. The western half had earlier became part of the Netherlands East Indies; the northeastern section became German New Guinea; and the southeast section became British New Guinea.

Only a few copra plantations on the German offshore islands were developed. The rest of New Guinea remained unexplored except for the coastal areas. In 1906 British New Guinea was transferred to Australian control and renamed the Territory of Papua. German New Guinea was occupied by Australian troops in 1914. Australia was given a League of Nations mandate to govern that area in 1920, renamed the Territory of New Guinea, and took over the German plantations and trading companies. Real exploration and the assertion of colonial authority took place only in this century. Contact with the Highlands people was not made until 1935-1936. The Southern Highlands region of Papua was not explored until the 1950's, and large regions of Irian Jaya (the eastern half of New Guinea now under Indonesian rule) remain unexplored. (2) (3)

Missionaries, planters, and prospectors followed the explorers and established the first schools and businesses. Traditional Melanesian society had no written records, but oral traditions. All records were thus created by Europeans, and are no more than a century old. Only a few thousand Europeans, mostly Australians, lived in Papua or New Guinea at any one time before the Second World War. The first

public library was not founded until 1936 in the capital, Port Moresby, by Australia's National Library. The colonial administrations of Papua, under Sir Hubert Murray, and of New Guinea, under Evan A. Wilson, were anxious not to disturb the traditional societies, except to control tribal warfare. Little was done to advance the educational, political, or social development of the indigenous people. Papua and New Guinea became a paradise for anthropologists, linguists and scientists of all descriptions. These scholars produced many articles, books, and dissertations that were and still are unavailable in Papua New Guinea itself. (4)

However, the Melanesians have proven themselves capable of entering the modern world. Papua New Guinea was granted independence in 1976, and is a parliamentary democracy with free and open elections. There have been no coups, revolutions, military rule, or dictatorships. The best book on the transformation of a Stone Age "savage" into modern politician and world-travellor is Kiki: Ten Thousand Years in a Lifetime: A New Guinea Autobiography, by Sir Albert Maori Kiki, who was born in 1931. (5)

Law and order is probably the most serious national issue facing Papua New Guinea at present, not merely in social terms but because of the heavy financial cost and wastage and disruption it causes the country. It falls into two types-urban crime by migrant youths and intertribal fighting in the Highlands. States of emergency and curfews have been imposed in affected areas since 1979. Politics are the politics of spoils rather than of group action for the general good. Government is often seen not as a mechanism for development but as an instrument to be used to establish and extend patronage ties. (6) This extends, of course, to the funding of education, libraries, archives and even records management.

HISTORY OF ARCHIVES AND RECORDS MANAGEMENT

Many anthropologists have long made field studies of Melanesia's diverse tribes, written dissertations, and published their books. But the activities of record-producing Europeans, traders, planters and missionaries, have been generally reported only in the last two decades. This is because many primary source materials had been destroyed, lost, or dispersed all over the world. The economic history

of Papua New Guinea and other Melanesian islands before the Second World War has yet been studied. There is no history of copra, of phosphate, of cotton, or of sugar in the region. Except for the German firm of Johann Cesar Godeffroy und Sohn, which pioneered the copra trade in German New Guinea and the Burns Philip company of Australia, there are no adequate studies of the extra-territorial trading companies. The history of investment in the Pacific is still negligible. The records of most companies have been lost or are still unavailable. (7) About the only exception are the records of the Jardine Matheson Company that were transferred from a Hong Kong warehouse to Cambridge University in 1936. While mainly concerned with China, some materials on the firm's commercial links with the South Pacific exist. (8)

Perhaps Anthony Musgrave, the first Government Secretary of British New Guinea and Papua, can claim to be the Territory's first "Archivist". His Diary of 26 November 1905 reads "In spite of urgent need of rest...I felt it my duty to continue arrangement of Protectorate Papers in lower room. They have got into gross confusion...some one has made hay of them". The records of German and British administrators of the Territories of Papua and New Guinea from 1886 to 1914

were sent mostly to Berlin and London. Material relating to German New Guinea is now held by the Bundesarchiv at Bonn in West Germany and the Deutsches Zentralarchiv at Potsdam in East Germany. A small and fragmentary collection of the papers of the German Administration in New Guinea (including some court papers) were transferred to Canberra in 1937. Records relating to the British interest in New Guinea are to be found in the Public Records Office, London. Australia had no national archives; most administrative records were kept at Port Moresby and Rabaul. Copies of these records were usually sent to the various Australian departments that administered the Territories. Many business and mission records were dispatched to home offices around the world. Much of what remained in Papua and New Guinea was soon rendered useless by mold and eaten by insects. (9)

The Japanese occupation of Mandated New Guinea resulted in the destruction of nearly all official records at Rabaul. The records of the Territory of Papua fared better; some remaining in Port Moresby (which was never occupied by the Japanese), and others being transferred to Australia during 1942 and 1943. Those records considered to be of value to the re-established civil administration (the Provisional

Administration of Papua and New Guinea) were returned to Port Moresby; the rest were transferred to the newly established Commonwealth Archives Office in Canberra. The few existing records of the prewar New Guinea Administration were transferred to Canberra by 1951. A major fire at the Government Secretary's Department in 1949 had destroyed all but 130 of the 4,000 files of that Department and of the war-time Australian New Guinea Administrative Unit (ANGAU). The Commonwealth Archives Office provided archival functions for the official records of Papua and New Guinea from 1945 to 1959. (10)

The Minister for Territories from 1951 to 1963 was P. M. C. (later Sir Paul) Hasluk, who had been involved in the setting-up of the Commonwealth Archives Office. He arranged a survey in 1955 of the record situation in the Territory by H. C. Gibbney of the Commonwealth Archives Office. It was decided to introduce a records management programme to help cope with the increased amount of paper produced by the post-war administration. V. W. Prescott was appointed to the newly created position of Records Officer/Archivist. In 1959 he set about the task of converting the basement of the old European Hospital Building into an archives repository and tackling

the job of receiving and sorting out records from various departments. In addition to setting up the records management programme, Prescott was actively engaged in building up a collection of pre-war records, mainly records from "out-stations" along the Papuan coast that had escaped the war. Non-current records of historical value from the post-war administration began to accumulate under archival custody at Port Moresby. The question soon arose as to whether these records should be incorporated into the collection already held at the Commonweath Archives in Canberra, or should the records held in Canberra be returned to the Territory. It was decided in 1962 that the records of the Territory were to be returned to Port Moresby. Ministerial approval was obtained for the establishment of an Archival Authority of the Territory of Papua and New Guinea separate from the Commonwealth Archives Office. Prescott became the Territory's first Chief Archivist. The records held in Canberra were microfilmed before being returned. The most important records were those of the Mining Warden at Wau and some of those from the Government offices at Mount Hagen and Upper Ramu. The Papua New Guinea Archives functioned under the Ministry of Information. (11)

The housing of these records left much to be desired until 1972 when a new building was opened by Sir Paul Hasluck in his new capacity as Governor-General. Shortly afterwards Prescott retired, having trained his successor, a graduate of the new University of Papua New Guinea. However, this man, Moeka Helai, was seconded instead as acting head of a department, and the National Archives stumbled along with a staff of nine non-graduate clerks. It was not until August 1980 that another qualified archivist took charge. At one time it looked as if the Archives might even be dismembered, when, in 1972, not long before self-government, some Australian record officers were sent to Papua New Guinea to go through and remove files that might possibly be "sensitive." Archivists and historians mounted a campaign of letters and publicity against this. (12) The Papua New Guinea Branch of the Library Association of Australia resolved that while the examination and copying of records to complete the Australian record of its administration of Papua New Guinea was praiseworthy, any removal of documents would interfere with the completeness of the record available to both an independent Government of Papua New Guinea and to the future historians of the country. The Library Association questioned whether

these documents did in fact belong to the Australian government rather than the independent Papua New Guinea of the future. Ownership of the documents could not be vested in the Australian Government since Australia was Trustee for the Territory under an United Nations mandate. The Australian government backed down, and the integrity of the records was preserved. (13)

The survival of the archives of what is now the Catholic Archdiocese of Rabaul, which covers the island of New Britain, was one of the minor miracles of World War II. Locked in a massive steel and concrete safe, they survivied not only two and half years of Japanese occupation of Bishop Leo Scharmach's house, but also the destruction of the house by American bombing in 1944. The 234 folders, going back to 1888, and baptismal and marriage registrars are now kept in an equally solid safe at the Archbishop's residence in Rabaul. (14) The Archives of the Society of Mary (the Marist Fathers), the major Catholic missionaries in Papua New Guinea, are in Rome. The "very full and well-kept" materials of that society's efforts in Melanesia from 1898 to the present must be consulted there. None of these archives regarding Papua New Guinea have yet been microfilmed. (15)

However, a major co-operative effort has been operating at the Australian National University since 1968. Under the direction of Robert Landon, a Pacific scholar, the Pacific Manuscripts Bureau there has copied large quantities of manuscripts and papers from institutions around the world. Microfilms are sent to its four member libraries; the National Libraries of Australia and New Zealand, the Mitchell Library of the Library of New South Wales, and the University of Hawaii Library. Others may purchase these microfilms. The Bureau issues a monthly newsletter, Pambu, and guides to unpublished Pacific materials in Australian libraries and archives. (16) Two inventories (Nos. 5 & 6) of the New Guinea materials that were moved from Port Moresby to Canberra in 1942 and returned twenty years later have been published by H. C. Gibbney, an Australian archivist. These are Records of the Protectorate of British New Guinea, 1884-1888, and Records of the Colony of British New Guinea, 1888-1906. (17)

The Queensland State Archives began operating in 1958, and now has its own building in Dutton Park, Brisbane. The Torres Strait islands of Queensland are only a few kilometers from Papua New Guinea, and that Australian state has been involved

in Papua New Guinean affairs since 1883, when it illegally tried to annex New Guinea. Much material about Papua New Guinea exists in the Colonial Secretary's Office Records, and the Records of the Premiers' Department and the Inspector of Pacific Islanders. Melanesians once labored in large numbers on the sugar plantations of north Queensland. (18)

A major addition to New Guinea materials that could be consulted in Australia occurred in 1971. The complete official records of the German administration of New Guinea from 1884 to 1914 had survivied the destruction of Berlin in 1945, and had been kept for some years in the Soviet Union. These records, now in the Duetches Zentralarchiv in Potsdam, East Germany, were microfilmed and almost a quarter-million frames sent to the Mitchell Library and the Australian National University Library. (19)

The two major libraries in Australia also received that year microfilms from the Archives of the London Missionary Society, the largest Protestant organization that laboured in Papua New Guinea. These archives, covering 1795 to 1940, had been deposited in the Library of the School of Oriental and Asian Studies of the University of London. Most of the

Papua New Guinea materials through 1923 was filmed in two series by the Australian Joint Copying Project sponsored by the National Library and the Mitchell Library of the Library of New South Wales in Sydney. (20)

The Australian Joint Copying Project became operational back in 1948, and other Australian state libraries and the National Library of New Zealand participate in acquiring materials of interest to them. The material copied by the project is still heavily dominated by Colonial Office Records from London. Other records in archives, libraries, societies and in private possession in the United Kingdom and Europe relating to Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific have been designated the M (i.e. Miscellaneous) Series. Records about Papua New Guinea have continued to be filmed from time to time. This programme is believed to be the oldest continous manuscript copying project in existence. (21)

The University of Papua New Guinea was rapidly expanding in 1973. The new Whitlam Labour Government had come to power, and had promised to grant independence to Papua New Guinea. An archives department was set up under the university library. Four trunks of the papers of Rev'd C. W. Abel (1863-1930), his wife and their children were given to the new

University Archives. Abel administered the London Missionary Society's Kwato Mission from 1884 to his death. In addition to diaries, ethnological reports and correspondence, the collection included over 200 photographs taken from about 1895. The University of Papua New Guinea has published guides to these papers. (22)

The University of Papua New Guinea Librarian, George Buick, had for a few years sufficient funds, qualified librarians and the encouragement of academics to create an outstanding New Guinea collection. The papers and books of Sir Hubert Murray, the pre-war Administrator, were transferred from the Port Moresby Public Library. An extensive map collection was collected, and is well housed, but has not been catalogued. The New Guinea Collection also has a large collection of historical photographs, that have now all been listed, but are only partly indexed. The New Guinea Collection is the only institution in Papua New Guinea which collects private manuscripts and the archives of non-governmental organizations. The Collection has received from time to time a number of large deposits of such papers, mainly the archives of early missions which are now the Anglican and United Churches. (23)

Nancy Lutton, former head of the New Guinea Collection, compiled a 43 page alphabetical index entitled A Preliminary List of Manuscripts Held in the New Guinea Collection in November, 1974. (24) A bibliography of German language materials in the library's New Guinea collection was compiled by Philip W. Holzknecht. (25) Nancy Lutton compiled and edited a 142 page Guide to the New Guinea Collection in 1980 that has been published by the Library. (26)

The Institute of Higher Technical Education was moved from Port Moresby to Lae in 1973, and became the University of Technology (Unitech) with its own library. This second university library has not reported any archives, manuscripts or records in its collection. Two autonomous research institutes operate in Papua New Guinea, with records that may be consulted by recognized researchers. The Institute of Applied Economic and Social Research is not a teaching institution, but functions to promote research into economic, social and political problems in order to find practical solutions. It aims to train Papua New Guineans as research workers, and publishes the I.A.S.E.R. Discussion Papers. This institute is situated at Waigani, adjacent to the University of Papua New Guinea, and has a good library. The Institute of

Medical Research, formerly known as the Institute of Human Biology, is at Goroka in the Highlands. This institute co-ordinates research into diseases peculiar to Papua New Guinea, including any aspect of medicine or biology, anthropological and sociological aspects of health, and anything to do with public health generally. (27)

A change of responsibility for management of Papua New Guinea's public records was proposed in 1975. The recommendations of the Interdepartmental Committee on the Feasibility of a National Library Service were approved by the National Executive Council. A National Library Service and a National Library were proposed, incorporating the National Archives, the Public Library Service, the National Film Library, the School Libraries Services, and various departmental libraries. The National Archives and the Film Library were then part of the Department of Information. The University libraries, the library of the Administrative College of Papua New Guinea, and the institute libraries remained independent. (28)

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

The Australian Government announced its Independence Gift from the Government and people of Australia would take the form of a National Library Building and contents up to the value of $A 2 million. The steel-framed building was opened on 30 October 1978, and provides approximately 2900 sq. m. of mostly air-conditioned accommodation. The National Library now has responsibility for the collection and conservation of public records. Manuscripts and private records and archives, however, remains the responsibility of the University of Papua New Guinea. The National Bibliography of Monographs and the Index to Papua New Guinea Periodicals continue to be published by the University of Papua New Guinea, and the National Union List of Serials is published by the University of Technology, the nation's second university, at Lae. (29) An union list of manuscripts and a national registrar of archival resources are badly needed, but funding and staff are lacking. (30)

The Archives of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Papua New Guinea were microfilmed from overseas records and added to the University of Papua New Guinea's collections in 1983. A microfiche production unit was set up that year at the

Summer School of Linguistics at Port Moresby. At the University of Technology at Lae, Papua New Guinea's second university, equipment was installed to produce microfiches of the library's periodicals collection. (31) A joint project of the Matheson (Unitech) library of the University of Technology at Lae and the University of New England at Armidale, New South Wales, began in 1983 to convert Unitech's card catalogue to a computer-outprint-microfiche (COM) catalogue. (32) The University of Technology offers Papua New Guinea's only curriculum in business, but has not yet offered an unit in records management. The University of Technology has the outstanding general technical library in Papua New Guinea, and has no equal in the rest of the South Pacific region.

Business record management in Papua New Guinea reflects the nation's "neo-colonial" status. The dominant private company in Papua New Guinea is Bouganville Copper, a subsidiary of the Tinto-Zinc group in the United Kingdom. It contributed $A 269 million of the nation's $A 1,684 million Gross Domestic Product in 1978. There are six commercial banks; three Australian, one French, one British and one local. All insurance companies are subsidiaries of Australian and British firms. The national newspaper, The Papua New

Guinea Post-Courier, is owned by the Herald and Weekly Times company of Australia, which in turn has just been acquired by Rupert Murdoch's News Limited. British Barclay Bros dominates civil engineering and building construction in Papua New Guinea. Burns Philip, an Australian company, has been the major retail firm for a century, with stores throughout the South Pacific. Foreign investment is sought and encouraged by the Papua New Guinea government, despite fears of neo-colonialism and domination of the economy by overseas interests. These and other foreign companies maintain their current business records in Papua New Guinea, but archival materials, if maintained, are located outside the nation.(33)

Papua New Guinea, like other developing nations, has limited available public funding, and archival development and records management have never received high priority. The tropical climate has made the task of preserving original records difficult, expensive and seemingly disproportionate to the research value of the records. When records management and archives systems do not exist, the need for them and an understanding of their value is not felt. The benefits of records management in increasing the efficiency of government departments, in effectively handling information, and in

long-range planning has been expounded by the few people working in the field, but progress is slow. (34) The stocking, maintenance and development of archives and records in an underdeveloped nation like Papua New Guinea requires hard work, persuasiveness, initiative, and the ability to improvise. While the need for airconditioning in the hot and humid climate has been recognized, the equipment often breaks down, and spare parts take weeks to arrive from Australia. With most people having inadequate health care, a majority still illiterate, and most villages without electric power and reachable only by foot, viable archives and records management programmes must operate on low budgets. (35)

Technical assistance from overseas, which, for Papua New Guinea, means Australia will continue to be needed. Australia continues to provide over a third ($ A 300,000,000) of Papua New Guinea's annual governmental budget as foreign aid. The ICA-Unesco programmes and recommendations have not been specifically addressed to Papua New Guinea. (36) (37) In recent years, however, a Pacific Regional Branch of the International Council on Archives has been established.

The Pacific Regional Branch of the International Council on Archives was formed on 27 October 1981 at a conference of

Pacific archivists in Suva, Fiji. Richard Dandi, Deputy Chief Archivist of The National Library of Papua New Guinea, was elected to the Executive Board. The formation of PARBICA was preceded by a two week Training Seminar from 12-13 October, covering archival theory; the life-cycle of records; accessioning, processing and arrangement of records; finding aides; publications and exhibitions; buildings and equipment; microfilming and the principles of conservation and restoration. Thirty individuals including all delegates to the Inaugural Conference of PARBICA participated in the Training Seminar. Dr. Frank Evans, formerly of the U. S. National Archives, directed the first week of the training session; and Peter Orlovich, Senior Lecturer in Archives, University of New South Wales, and five other Australian and American archivists, conducted the second half of the seminar. (38)

The most extensive and publicized recent work has been done, not with printed records, but with Papua New Guinea's rich and diverse oral history in folklore, stories, music and dance. The Australian Broadcasting Corporation has recorded a fascinating series of programmes of interviews going back to the 1930's when first contact was made between Highlanders and Australians. Films exist showing the reactions of tribal

people when airplanes landed in their isolated valleys. Attempts are being made in Papua New Guinea to record the 700-800 spoken languages and dialects before they are lost. The Library Studies Programme of the Administrative College of Papua New Guinea is undertaking pioneer activities in recording oral literature. A number of small manuscript publications have been prepared by "miniwriters" which form part of courses in "Literacy and the Library." The National Library has responsibility for the National Film Library, sound recording and audio-visual cassettes. (39) While the University of Papua New Guinea has considerable quantities of audio-visual materials, the facilities for replay are inadequate and locked up evenings and week-ends. (40) This division, public archives and audio-visual materials at the National Library, manuscripts and private records at the University, separated by some kilometers, is unfortunate.

A third archive may be said to be developing in Port Moresby at the Institute of Papua New Guinea Studies in the suburb of Boroko. This Institute was created in 1974 to collect cultural archives before they were lost and to foster a national identity. Grants are made to Papuan New Guineans for research into various aspects of culture, dance, poetry,

art, architecture and drama. The results are published in several journals, and numerous monographs and discussion papers. The Institute's library contains these papers, taped music, handwritten papers, music archives, and some photographs and films. Papua New Guinea is not an easy country in which to travel around. Port Moresby has little public transportation, and researchers with limited time and no car are often frustrated in being sent from the National Library to the University and then to the Institute, being told to fill in a form and come back later. (41)

The Institute of Papua New Guinea Studies does have now authority over foreign researchers, where they may go and the depositing of their papers and records. Before Independence it was possible for ten researchers to study the same area and not leave a single paper behind them! (42) Those who published their research had concentrated in the same areas, used villagers as informants, and taken away artifacts for a low price and sold them overseas for inflated prices. The Minister for Foreign Relations and Trade, Sir Albert Maori Kiki, outlined the conditions under which a researcher may be granted a permit to enter Papua New Guinea. He must be affiliated with some national institution, a university,

museum or government department; be acceptable to the local community concerned; have his proposal accepted by the Migration Office, the Institute, and a suitable local institute; provide references and a curriculum vitae; and pay Kina 100 for processing expenses. Copies of books, papers, theses, records, tapes, transcripts, photographs and films must be deposited at the Institute of Papua New Guinea Studies, and a declaration must be signed to this effect. A nation, like an organization or a company, is entitled to the control of its own records. (43)

The New Guinea collection at the University of Papua New Guinea has acquired the archives of the Public Employees Association, the nation's first trade union and still the most influential. Additional church records, including those of the neighbouring Solomon Islands, have been added to the Archives. Since the missionaries in the early days of contact with the indigenous people penetrated far beyond the reaches of government and civil administration and were the only providers of education and medical services, their records are an important source for the history of Papua New Guinea. In certain regions, the establishment of mission stations pre-dated the annexation of New Guinea by the colonial powers and the introduction of centralised government. (44)

Archivists in Papua New Guinea were able to communicate directly with those in other South Pacific islands by satellite on seven occasions for one hour sessions by using the Pan-Pacific Education and Communications Experiment (PEACESAT). Terminal manager Elsa Flavell of the Wellington, New Zealand, Polytechnic Institute provided the linkup from 1981 to 1983. The Minutes of the Executive Board were considered; arrangements were made for the PARBICA Conference in Rarotonga; papers presented; and funding from the Asian Cultural Council, the U. S. Fulbright-Hayes programme, and the Australian Development Assistance Bureau was discussed. The appointment of Judith Hornabrook as Chief Archivist, Papua New Guinea was announced. The seventh session included a report on a meeting of a Round Table on Archives in Kuala Lumper, Malaysia; a paper on "Conservation without Chemicals in Oceania;" and the completion of a questionnaire by PARBICA members for the Commission on Archival Development. (45)

The Pacific Regional Branch of the International Council of Archives met in Rarotonga, Cook Islands, on 19-27 July 1982, examined the archives of that nation, and discussed

government record keeping operations and local archives. The Proceedings of the Inaugural Conference were approved for publication, bound up with associated documentation, including the PARBICA Constitution. An 1983-1987 PARBICA Draft Project Programme was drawn up; and proposals were submitted for the preparation of a Directory of Pacific Archival Institutions and a Basic Information Handbook for Pacific Archivists. Other projects include study of the use of alternative energy sources for air conditioning, and regional seminars in records management and the archival handling of oral sources. The question of regional consultation on the archives of former governing powers relating to Pacific island nations was discussed. The major problem facing PARBICA is obtaining funding from national and international sources. Significant funding is also required, but rarely provided, from within the region. The ICA, Unesco, the Asia Foundation, and the Australian Government remain the main supporters of PARBICA activities. (46)

The use of computers in archives management arrived in Papua New Guinea in 1985. The University of Papua New Guinea Library embarked on a programme to computerise several of its

functions using the ADaptive LIBrary Management System (ADLIB) produced by Lipman Management Resources of Maidenhead, England. All new cataloguing in the University Library is now done on-line, and the old card catalogue is being converted. The new catalogue is in microfiche form produced direct from the computer record and updated regularly. Using ADLIB, a separate data base has been created for the archives and manuscripts in the New Guinea collection. Edited versions of the accession sheets are being entered in the data base using an input screen format designed to include the following information: title; description of collection and any explanatory notes; covering dates; subject terms; quantity; media type; access conditions; and references to other finding aids.

Several of the fields used in this format are index fields and can be searched rapidly by the computer for specific entries. In the 'subject term' field, for example, the computer can select and list all collections recorded as containing material relating to a particular subject, such as education, Port Moresby, Political Parties, Anglican Church, or Papua New Guinea drama. There is no limit on the number of subject

terms entered for each collection. The programmer, Ronald Kaser, whenever possible follows Library of Congress subject headings, used in the University Library's general subject catalogue. Within the archives and manuscripts data base, searching can also be made for sub-divisions of subject terms. 'Media type' is another index field- all collections containing photographs or maps or plans can quickly be located. A 'date' field can also be used to list and select materials. A further facility is a free text search: the occurrence of a word or truncated word in any field in the data base (e.g. MISSION/ for Mission, Missionaries, London Missionary Society etc.) can be searched for. All the catalogue entries within which the 'key word' occurs can be listed automatically. The ADLIB package allows a wide range of print-out formats, by subject terms and arranged alphabetically, by media types, and giving either full catalogue entries or abbreviated entries. The entering of all the archives and manuscripts collections was completed last year, and a microfiche catalogue produced. (47)

Papua New Guinea has gone through three historical periods in one century. (These are the titles of Australian Broadcasting Service radio interview programmes available on cassettes).

PIDGIN:	ENGLISH:	DATES:	RECORDS:
Tim Bilong Ghos	Traditional Society	before 1885	oral legends and stories
Tim Bilong Massa	Colonial Period	1885-1976	written records created and controlled by Europeans
Tim Bilong Yumi	Independence	1976-	Melanesians begin to create and control their records

Papua New Guinea has gone from "Tok Tok Man," who memorized the legends of his tribe, to computers and satellites in a very few years. But, like other Third World nations, it remains dependent on outside technology and investment and the foreign aid of its former colonial master. The management of records, manuscripts and archives is, like the economic development of the nation producing those records, still very much restricted to the cities and handicapped by the climate, the lack of trained personnel, and inadequate funding.

Papua New Guinea has applied to join the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and remains the largest and most important member of the South Pacific Forum. Its optimal future role is to be the link between Asia and the Pacific.

Papua New Guinea's future economy will probably be more closely linked to Japan, Indonesia, Singapore, Taiwan, Hong Kong and South Korea than to Australia. The nation's considerable natural resources, lack of racial or religious conflict, and democratic form of government should also attract more American and West European capital. Papua New Guinea is set for a very real resources boom with emerging discoveries of gold, oil, and gas. (48)

Japan, the invader and destroyer of records in 1942, has made the first equitable tuna fish agreement, and is the major exporter of motor vehicles and other manufactures to Papua New Guinea. While Australia's capacity to provide aid and capital declines, Japan's increases. Japanese Foreign Minister Tadashi Kuranari toured the South Pacific in 1986, noted that Japan's aid to the region has grown five times in the decade, and promised substantial further increases in development projects, appropriate technology research, and training programmes. Japan is second only to the United States in its abhorrence of recent increases of Soviet influence in the South Pacific. (49)

We can be optimistic about this new nation, and its ability to create and gradually control, manage and preserve its unique and interesting future records. Those responsible for these records are gradually becoming properly trained and regarding themselves collectively as educators and a part of the overall national development plan. (50) With economic development, Papua New Guinea may even in time be able to bring back or make copies of its past works and records, from Sepik art to Ph. D. dissertations.

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